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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/609,111	06/26/2003	James Michael Devine	Devine 2-1-1	9252
7590	04/19/2004		EXAMINER	
GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 885 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022			TON, MY TRANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/609,111	DEVINE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> My-Trang N. Ton	<b>Art Unit</b> 2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 26 June 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

Figures 1-2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

In page 2, line 30, "a processor transceiver circuit 02" should be replaced with -- 102 --.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Claim 13 recites the limitation "the one wire bus" in lines 1-2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsukahara (U.S Patent No. 5,592,108).

Tsukahara discloses in Figs. 1-2 an interface circuit including:

an active pull-up device (4);

a level shift circuit (5) coupled to the active pull-up device (4) wherein the active pull-up device (4) is coupled to a one wire bus (wire connected to 4) and the level shift circuit is also coupled to circuit ground (VSS) as recited in claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, one connection point of the level shift circuit (5) is coupled to a reference connection point (point connected to 42) of the active pull-up device (4) and another connection point of the level shift circuit (5) is connected to circuit ground (VSS).

The active pull up device (4) has a voltage sense switch (41) that is coupled to the level shift circuit (5) as recite in claim 3.

The level shift circuit (5) is a diode (53) with its cathode connected to circuit ground (VSS via 52) and its anode connected to a reference connection point of the active pull-up device (4 via 51) as recited in claim 4.

Claims 7-11 are similarly rejected as claims 1-4: a level shift (5) and an active pull-up device (4).

Claims 1-3, 5-10 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Turner et al (U. S Patent No. 6,118,302).

Turner et al disclose in Fig. 13 an interface for low-voltage semiconductor devices including:

an active pull-up device (1330);

a level shift circuit (1317) coupled to the active pull-up device (1330) wherein the active pull-up device (1330) is coupled to a one wire bus (1310) and the level shift circuit (1317) is also coupled to circuit ground (1341) as recited in claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, one connection point of the level shift circuit (1330) is coupled to a reference connection point (node connected to M1) of the active pull-up device (1330) and another connection point of the level shift circuit (1317) is connected to circuit ground (1341).

The active pull up device (1330) has a voltage sense switch (1335) that is coupled to the level shift circuit (1317) as recite in claim 3.

The limitation recited in claims 5-6 are inherently seen in Figs. 14-17.

Claims 7-10, 12-13 are similarly rejected as claims 1-3, 5-6.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5-6 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukahara as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of the prior art depicted by the Applicant's Fig. 1.

As stated above, every element of the claimed invention recited in above claims can be seen in the circuit of Tsukahara. However, this reference does not specifically

show the ""at least one I-button device" (claims 5 and 12) and "a transceiver having a processor" (claims 6 and 13).

The prior art, Fig. 1 teaches a wire bus system connected to various I buttons (110-114) for reporting the status of their subsystems (116-120), and their subsystems are part of an electronic system whose status is monitoring by a processor residing on transceiver circuit 102.

Clearly if designer wish to reducing size, reducing cost of manufacture and improving circuit reliability, there is well-known way to do such as: a circuit of Tsukahara can be formed on the system of the prior art, Fig. 1. Moreover, since the limitation "at least one I-button device" and "a transceiver having a processor" is seen to define an intended use, clearly, the interface circuit of Tsukahara is capable of coupling to the at least one I-button device and the transceiver having a processor depending on the particular environment in which the circuit is employed and the desired output.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to My-Trang N. Ton whose telephone number is 571-272-1754. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 a.m - 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MY-TRANG NUTON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

April 8, 2004